

Message Text

SECRET

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USDEL SECRETARY IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 235326 TOSEC 270571

EXDIS FROM EUR

FOLLOWING REPEAT ATHENS 10167 ACTION SECSTATE 22 SEP 76.

QUOTE: S E C R E T ATHENS 10167

EXDIS

FOR EUR ONLY

PERSONAL FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY HARTMAN FROM KUBISCH

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR, PFOR, GR, US

SUBJECT: U.S.-GREEK BASE NEGOTIATIONS

1. ON HIS WAY BACK FROM AFRICA, THE SECRETARY IS SCHEDULED TO MAKE A REFUELING STOP IN CRETE EARLY THURSDAY EVENING, SEPTEMBER 23RD. BITSIOS SAYS HE HAS TO REMAIN IN ATHENS THAT EVENING FOR LAST MINUTE PREPARATIONS FOR HIS DEPARTURE FRIDAY MORNING FOR NEW YORK AND ANTICIPATED WEEKEND MEETINGS WITH CAGLAYANGIL, SO HE AND CARAMANLIS ARE SENDING JOHN TZOUNIS TO CRETE TO GREET AND BE AVAILABLE FOR A SHORT MEETING WITH THE
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SECRETARY DURING HIS STOPOVER.

2. AS I AM SURE YOU REALIZE, THE SECRETARY COULD GIVE OUR EFFORTS TO FINISH THE BASE NEGOTIATIONS A MIGHTY BOOST IF HE WEIGHED IN REALLY HEAVILY ON THIS SUBJECT WITH TZOUNIS WHEN HE SEES HIM. INDEED, TZOUNIS WILL UNDOUBTEDLY MAKE A FULL, PERSONAL REPORT TO CARAMANLIS AND HIS TOP MINISTERS ON WHATEVER THE SECRETARY SAYS TO HIM. SINCE WE HAVE BEEN STRAINING SO HARD HERE IN RECENT DAYS TO WRAP UP THE NEGOTIATIONS -- AND STRESSING HOW IMPORTANT THEY WERE TO THE USG AND TOPMOST U.S. OFFICIALS -- UNLESS THE SECRETARY TAKES THE SAME LINE AND RE-ENFORCES OUR POSITION, TZOUNIS MIGHT END UP REPORTING TO CARAMANLIS AND THE GOG THAT WE HAVE BEEN EXAGGERATING THE IMPORTANCE OF CONCLUDING THESE NEGOTIATIONS THIS MONTH.

3. SINCE YOU ARE RIGHT ON TOP OF THIS IN WASHINGTON I THOUGHT YOU MIGHT WANT TO SEND THE SECRETARY A SPECIAL MESSAGE ON THE SUBJECT. IF YOU DO, FEEL FREE TO MENTION THE IMPORTANCE I ATTACH TO IT -- AND I WILL FOLLOW UP AS BEST I CAN LOCALLY.
KUBISCH
UNQUOTE HABIB

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